

Meeting Minutes

Oakland University Student Congress

Miller/Evans Administration

Legislative Body Meeting Agenda

Oakland Room, Oakland Center

Monday, January 8, 2007

4:00 P.M.

I. Call to Order –Meeting Primarily Conducted by Joshua Miller. Called to order at 4:06pm.

II. Roll Call –

a.) 8/9 Present and Voting Legislatures

III. Approval of Minutes from December 4, 2006

a.) Approved

IV. Comments from the Gallery

a.) Jessica Henry- Looking for Student support from Congress to aid in the possibility of getting and office for environmental purpose. Good way to get students information. Administration support and student organization S.P.I.N.

b.) Mia Evans- Who would Staff the Center?

i.) Jessica Henry- There would need to be a lot more student assistant. Primarily run by students with the aid of some faculty.

c.) Samir Hanna- What are some of the things your organization has done for the ascetics/ ground control at OU?

i.) Student events such as: encouraging Organic foods, environmental ethics, earth day, lots of support from community environmental organizations have come to help as well.

V. Confirmation of Executive Board Members

a. Krystal Minarik, Administrative Assistant

i.) Approved

VI. Old Business

a. C.B. 07-16 (Bylaws Amendment [SAFAC Bylaws], second reading)

b. Joshua Miller- This needs continuous guidelines, not just year to year.

i.) Motion to amend Bylaws Amendment C.B. 07-16 [SAFAC Bylaws] -to read in section 3 part D – 7 of the 10 Students, previously 9. And 2 members must be at large students.

-second by Eric Ventimiglia

-Motion Passed

ii.) Motion to amend the Bylaws Amendment C.B. 07-16 [SAFAC Bylaws]- to read analysis unless specific exceptions are authorized in student referendum body

-second Eric Ventimiglia

-Motion Passed

c. Amendment Called to a Vote

i. Yes-8

ii. No- 0

iii. Abstain- 0

iv. Motion Passed

VII. New Business

a. C.B. 07-17 (Budget Amendments, first reading)

i. Joshua Miller- – a bill to amend the University Student Congress Winter 2007 Budget.

ii. Jordan Twardy- Proposed to use 2000 dollars of the carry over money from the Fall 2006 Budget to go to another Student Employee Lunch.

iii. Eric Ventimiglia-

1. Jordan Twardy-Are you sure there will be that amount left over in the carry over budget?

A.) Yes, there was 950 dollar left over from my budget alone.

iv.. Krystal Minarik-

1. Jordan Twardy- Are there any other departments or organizations donating as well?
A.) There are a couple willing to donate. And I plan on putting notes in every organization and department mail boxes on campus.

v. Nina Lavelant-

1. Jordan Twardy- What are the gift expenses?

A.) Pen and Candy were given out last time. I have been looking for the least expensive, but quality gift for student employees. So far I've found 78 cent coffee Mugs.

vi. Samir Hanna-

1. Jordan Twardy- Who is it open for?

A.) Free and Open to all

b. C.B. 07-18 (Budget Amendment, first reading)

i. A bill to amend the University Student Congress Winter 2007 Budget.

ii. Jordan Twardy- Would Like to take half of the paws budget (currently \$1200) and take \$600 to place for Reaching out to Freshman Initiative Brochures, Food. Then making that budget \$700 instead of \$100. Budget item renamed as "Increasing OUSC Presence on Campus", previously "Reaching out to Freshman Initiative". Hope to get a new brochure.

VIII. Discussion Topics

a. Campus Environmental Awareness and Activities – Ms. Muhammad

i. Danielle Fallis –

1. Jameelah Muhammad -Not sure what kind of support they're looking for.

A.) Kind of a spokesperson for communication between

S.P.I.N and congress.

ii. Mia Evans- I agree with Danielle. Maybe have a legislature volunteer to go to meetings, and help aid with writing pieces of legislature.

iii. Dmitriy Shapiro- Any faculty involved?

-yield to Danielle

iv. Danielle Fallis-

1. Jameelah Muhammad -Who first approached this idea, a student or faculty?

A.) Combination of both. Students in the Major and Faculty from that department.

v. Aaron Kochenderfer- Not sure if the Board of trustee is aware of this huge Project.

vi. Nina Lavelanet- Maybe we could have a forum on the Environmental Department

vii. Samir Hanna-

1. Jameelah Muhammad- Is this going to be more of a Development/ Advocate or academic department?

A.) Both. Helping with Internships and recycling etc.

b. GROW Weekend Update – Ms. Muhammad – Going to be in February sometime. If anyone wants to confirm participation contact Jameelah.

i. Krista- Feb 16 through Feb 18

ii. Nina Lavelanet-

1. Jameelah Muhammad- How much was it individually?

A.) Cost is covered. Trainer is willing to work with what we budgeted for.

c. Legislative Forums – Mr. Twardy – There will be 3 discussion Forums. The first one is with Chartwells. Still need Legislatures for the Panel.

-yield to Aaron

iii. Aaron Kochenderfer- Unable to go to the Senate Meeting today.

iv. J.L. Ricks- Did go to the Senate for Human Relations. Planning on the March 14th forum on Student Life.

v. Aaron Kochenderfer- Senate will help with Publicity and money for events.

vi. Nina Lavelanet-

1. Jordan Twardy – What sort of publicity are you having for the forums and how much money are you spending?

A.) Krista has been doing it.

-Yield to Krista

vii. Krista Kettlehut- Yard signs, flyers, for the Legislature forums, paws has kind of been on the back burner.

viii. J.L. Ricks-

1. Jordan Twardy – Will there be separate forums?

A.) Can clarify forums, for specific topics, that way there is good answers for everything.

ix. Dmitriy Shapiro-

-yield to J.L. Ricks

ix. J.L. Ricks- Student Life Panel will separate from Legislature Forum .

x. Samir Hanna- Narrow Down the forum for Campus Life to get more specific answers.

-yield to Jordan – good idea, student life can drop food discussion all together.

d. Discussion topics related to Guest Speakers, Comments from the Gallery Related to the Business of the Day, & submitted Statements of Student Concern

i. There seems to be a lot of deficit in the SAFB Accounts.

1. Eric Ventimiglia- Recommend them to Kirbionne Fletcher or Cressie

Smith.

VIII. Reports

a. Madalyn Miller – Student Body President

b. Mia Evans – Student Body Vice President -Welcome Back OUSC!!!!

I am so excited to see you all on Monday. I look forward to our first meeting. Unfortunately, some members will not be returning BUT I look forward to an exciting semester.

Here are some things I have been working on and would like to receive your input and assistance with.

I spoke briefly with Cindy Hermsen (Director of Financial Aid). We scheduled a meeting for January 22nd and she encouraged me to bring her any complaints, concerns, etc. regarding Financial Aid from students. So...If you are aware of any students that need financial aid help please let me know!

On Friday, along with Jameelah I attended the ASH Committee Meeting.

The Readership Program that we (OUSC) sponsors is expanding into North Foundation Hall. I have been working with the USA Today Rep, Communications and Marketing Department, Kresge Library and others to put the last minute touches on everything. The Communications and Marketing Department had an issue with the new displays so we will be working on that.

I have been in the office whenever time allows. Unfortunately my office hours for this semester are not yet confirmed, they will be made available as soon as my internship and academic schedule have been finalized.

That's all that's worth sharing at this time, BUT STAY TUNED!

c. Student Activities Funding Board Report

d. Jordan Twardy – Student Services Director - Congress,

Since I only got one response so far... here is the e-mail about January's forum again. PLEASE sign up to participate in this forum. It cannot be successful without participation from the legislature. The forum is in about 3 weeks, and I would like to have a full panel by next Wednesday if possible, so you guys can have time to prepare meaningful questions.

Legislators,

To help kick off the legislative forums initiative, I have selected a topic for the first forum, on January 24, 2007 (I will change the date should the OU Senate decide to go with this one, but hopefully Aaron can sell them two of the other dates :D).

January's forum topic will be "Food Service on Campus"

Items to be discussed include:

Chartwells Contract

Food Service hours in UL of OC

Food Service in LL of OC (opening that window by the tv lounge)

Food service in Pawley Hall

Chartwells service to Student Orgs

Chartwells Menu

The Speakers will be (as of now, I am still waiting on other responses):

Andrew Willows, Resident Manager for Chartwells at Oakland University

Richard Fekel, Director of the Oakland Center and primary handler of Chartwells Contract

Lionel Maten, Director of University Housing, liaison to Chartwells

I need at least four legislators to be present for the entire forum; I will serve as chair for this forum only so I can show you guys how I am expecting these to be run (I don't usually micro manage like this but I want to make sure the forums do what I am hoping they will do, so I'll lead off the first one as an example). Please note that if you agree to do the forum, you cannot back out unless it is an absolute family/health emergency. I need to make sure that we have enough legislators there and that the event comes off in a professional manner, so I cannot afford to lose half of my panel the morning of the event. We want to ask specific, pointed questions to the administrators, but please remember, we are not trying to put them in their place or scare them from coming to future forums. Do some homework, talk to the students and come prepared with several questions. Keep in mind that we are forging a partnership with administration. I strongly urge all of you to take advantage of this exciting opportunity to serve the student body. The forum will run from 12:00-1:30pm in the Fireside Lounge on Wednesday, January 24th. Please arrive promptly by 11:45.

After the forum, the panel of legislators should have sufficient information to write a piece of legislation, such as a recommendation to administration, to address the topic.
Thanks!

e. Tamara Kukuk – Student Program Board Chair- hope that everything is going well for everyone! SPB events for the semester have almost begun. We are really excited for this semester.

If you are available, tomorrow from 12-1pm in the Oakland Room, SPB will be having a General Body Meeting! =)

Wednesday, the 11th we are having our Open House from 12-2pm!!!!

Please support SPB by coming out to these events.

Also, on behalf of SPB, I would like to ask everyone to please respect the SPB office. We have had things come up missing, messes left on the table and in the microwave and other things along that line. Please don't allow students to enter the SPB office through the computer lab, unless there is a SPB Executive Board member in the office. Thanks for your cooperation!

Let me know if you have any questions or need anything! =)

f. Rob Meyer – Financial Affairs Director - I hope everyone has enjoyed their time off! Things have been rather slow over break, but here are a couple things I managed to do:

- Ordered door tags for the eboard members doors

- Ordered supplies for Krista, Mia, and the rest of the office

- Payroll

- Finished compiling the end of the fall semester budget report which will be circulated to each of you

- Some general office cleaning (conference room)

- Dealt with property management trying to get those ugly cabinets taken out our conference room (those were not what we ordered). Property management is trying to make us pay for those- but I will make sure that this doesn't happen.

Here's the thing- last week, as I was on my computer, I decided to get a virus. So- all my files were DELETED, including the budgets, etc. BUT- since I was smart thinking ahead of time, I always back everything up, even old files. The only down side to this is that I need to retract EVERYTHING we spent and match it with my budget. This isn't a big deal- I will just be up until 1 am doing it.

g. Jameelah Muhammad – Legislative and Multicultural Affairs Director - Greetings Student Congress Colleagues,

Since the completion of Fall Semester I have been working on a variety of projects for the enhancement and advancement of Student Congress, the General Student Body, and the entire Oakland University community. This semester I hope to focus on a few larger projects through Legislative and Multicultural Affairs that will help better focus and establish the mission and goals of this area of student government and help unite the

organization of Student Congress as a whole. During the break I spent a lot of time planning, emailing, calling, meeting, and preparing for the next few months and possibly beyond for Student Congress. Although a lot of important tasks were completed during the break, there is still a lot that needs to be done and I am counting on the input, collaborative effort, and participation of the entire Student Congress to make this Winter Semester as successful as possible. I look forward to seeing and working with everyone in the near future.

Sincerely,
LMA Director

Here is a brief summary of a few projects that I have been working on since the last legislative body meeting:

- I had a very insightful and informative meeting with Dean of Students and Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, Glenn McIntosh. We discussed the Student Congress events from Fall Semester and some of the future activities planned through Legislative and Multicultural Affairs. We also discussed the Multicultural Roundtable events and how to get students, faculty, and staff more involved with open forums such as these. Legislative and Multicultural Affairs plans to improve communication between the Dean of Students Office and will receive support from the office with future LMA/Congress events.
- I have great news! I had a meeting with Associate Director of Admissions and Orientation, Dawn Aubry, and we discussed the possibility of having voter registration activities at New Student Orientation Programs this summer. She said that this should not be a problem and that she would be in contact with me late January/early February to look at the orientation schedule to see where and when voter registration activities would best fit. Some of the options that we looked into were having it available during check-in, during student activity/involvement sessions, near the ID card station, and also having a Student Congress Representative available through out the day to answer questions, provide forms, and register students on a need basis. I am very excited to launch this program and also discussed with her developing this into a “permanent” program seeing that voter registration has been conducted at orientations in the past, but not on a consistent basis, and mostly not during times when there are not presidential elections. I am very excited about this and will keep everyone updated on the progress of this initiative.
- Another important meeting that took place was with Sara Webb, New Student Programs Coordinator. We confirmed the Transition Workshop that was presented last semester by Legislative and Multicultural Affairs Committee will take place again this semester. Publicity should be arriving soon and students can register for the workshop online from the New Student Program website. The workshop as a new title, “Diversity: Facts and Myths”. If you are interested in being a presenter for this workshop or want to help plan any of the workshop activities please send me an email. Last semester’s workshop went very well and if you are interested in having a positive influence in a freshman student’s life, being a part of this workshop can be a great learning experience for the freshmen students and workshop presenters as well.
- I met with Jean Mick to catch up on Student Congress activities and to also discuss the “What is Spirituality” program that Legislative and Multicultural Affairs will be doing this semester. It will address stereotypes and communication issues that occur when addressing religion in general on a college campus. I think this is an important discussion to have especially because there are so many different types of religious groups on OU’s campus, yet dialogue and interaction between these groups are unfortunately rare.

- LMA will be having a professional poster for publicity purposes this semester! I worked with Krista to organize, dates, times, and locations of these events as well as working on the layout/design of the poster.
- I worked on bringing Diversity Training to local high schools to prepare them for the types of experiences that they may encounter on a college campus. I am currently working with Michelle Southward (CMI), to plan this event. We are considering bringing the students to Oakland for a day to facilitate this training. This will be a great educational event for students as well as a great way to expose prospective students to Oakland University and Student Congress.
- I have been trying diligently to get in contact with the Government Relations representative for Oakland University to help plan OU Day at the Capitol. I have recently been able to obtain a meeting scheduled with the representative this week and will hopefully be setting a date for this event very soon. As soon as the date is set, publicity should start soon afterwards.
- I've signed up for and plan to attend the CSA Leadership Retreat where I will help facilitate leadership activities and also hopefully recruit more Student Congress members!
- I've meet with the President of SPIN Students Promoting Interest in Nature and we discussed Student Congress's potential involvement with environmental issues on campus. For some time recycling and other environmental issues have been a concern for students on campus, I was forwarded a letter last semester that asked Student Congress to look into this issue. The University Senate Committee- Environment and Development is working on addressing some of these concerns, but more student representation is needed. The Environmental Group as well as concerned Environmental Health Students will be discussing their concerns with student congress in the near future. In addition to recycling, the expansion of resources for the Academic Environmental Health Program will also be addressed.
- I have worked with the University Senate- Academic Honors and Standing Committee to address fall semester cases. I reviewed these cases and attended a meeting related to academic standing issues. I also set up a meeting with Aniesha Mitchell to discuss issues of Academic Probation and how Student Congress can address this concern.
- I have made contact with the Human Relations Committee on the University Senate to see if this committee can be of assistance with Legislative and Multicultural Affairs activities, including multicultural roundtables.
- Extensive GROW Preparation. I have been coordinating with the GROW trainer in Washington DC, to work out the logistics of the GROW training program including room reservations, the itinerary, as well as printing applications.
- With the assistance of my wonderful family (My mom and sister to be exact), we organized all of the cans from the can food drive(World Hunger Awareness Week) and dropped them off at Grace Centers of Hope in downtown Pontiac. They were very appreciative of the donation. ˘

Ok...my report is getting really long, I think I've covered a lot of the really important things that have been going on, for more information please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns. ˘

h. Krista Ketelhut – Publicity and Technology Coordinator -I have been spending A LOT of time creating flyers and coordinating with Jordan in regards to his events and various things he wanted me to publicize for. I have also been hard at work designing and ordering the Silver Screen Design Poster's for both Jameelah and Jordan. I have also been working closely with Tim Lorenz from Forbes Marketing in regards to re-ordering hooded sweatshirts for our new executive board member(s); although that has been temporarily put on hold due to the recent adjustment to the SAFB Chair position. I have also been working with Tim to design and order 1,000 sticky note pads to give out on behalf of student Congress. I also ordered the magazine racks for the ousc newsletter (those should be here sooner than later). I have also been creating and ordering banners for our January events. I have also been trying to create flyers for both Jameelah and Jordan. A lot of my time have also been spent on updating the website and making sure things are up-to-date. I have also spent A Lot of time on the OUSC January Newsletter. I am in the process of organizing for my wednesday "welcome back" p.r. committee meeting. Everyone is invited! It will be held this Wednesday at 5pm, so i hope you all can make it and see what we will be up to this semester! I have also been planning for the Fair that will happen in the fireside lounge today. MAJOR props to Mia C. Evans for helping me out BIG TIME!!! We will be colaborating with SPB and their Gold Fish Game :) Finally, I have been slowly, but surely (as these things take a lot more time than I expected) been working on a general OUSC Brochure that can be used for semesters to come! It is a work in progress, but I have high hopes that it will look Phenomenal when it is done!

I have been organizing a lot of other things for the upcoming semester. So please feel free to talk to me if you want more details!

IX. Updates

- a. Danielle Fallis – Disciplinary Chair
- b. Aaron Kochenderfer – Research and Review Chair
- c. Lauren Hally – Scholarship Chair
- d. Joshua Miller – Steering Chair

X. Comments from the Gallery

XI. Announcements

- a.

XII. Adjournment